

‘Teach Me How to Rig’ training deemed a success

Story and Photo by
SGT. CHRIS HUDDLESTON
45th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs,
8th Theater Sust. Command

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD,
Afghanistan — Soldiers from the 647th Quartermaster Detachment, 45th Special Troops Battalion, held a training event for the leadership and staff, here, May 14.

The “Teach Me How to Rig” training focused on rigging operations and the teamwork required to successfully accomplish a rigging mission.

“Today is about teamwork,” said 1st Lt. Tie She Morgan, commander, 647th QM Det., 45th STB, 45th Sustainment Brigade, 8th Theater Sust. Command, during the initial briefing. “You can’t perform rigging ops without teamwork.”

Training began with the prep team demonstrating proper preparation, including cutting “honeycomb” packing material, tie-down cord and setting up pallets.

“I was nervous at first to brief a bunch of officers,” said Spc. Cruz Celis, prep team chief, 647th QM Det., “But talking about rigging, the job I do every day, once I started briefing, it was easy.”

After prep team’s demonstration, the rigging team took over and showed the participants how to build a pallet of bottled water for aerial delivery. This portion included a quick class from

Staff Sgt. Leigh Barnard, detachment noncommissioned officer in charge, 647th QM Det., on how to tie the required knots for the mission.

Having acquired the skills needed to succeed, the team from the 45th STB, began their mission: Rig 15 bundles of water in three hours to provide re-supply to ground forces low on supplies.

“I learned the importance of the rigger’s mission and the various procedures they must conduct to fulfill critical mission requirements,” said Master Sgt. Maurice Williams, operations NCOIC, 45th STB. “It was remarkable, hands-on training and it felt good to actually work in that position, now I have a clearer insight into their (military occupation specialty).”

Everyone involved learned some important lessons.

“Teamwork is key to efficient operations,” said Lt. Col. Andrew Hyatt, commander, 45th STB. “Also, attention to detail is critical as specific rigging procedures are developed to ensure the bundles properly drop. Failure to follow instructions could result in a bundle being damaged and thus being useless to the warfighter. Lastly, it’s clear that rigging 15 bundles is hard work.”

The training gave the leadership of the 45th STB a chance to experience the work the 647th QM Det. Soldiers do every day and learn skills outside their own day to day jobs.



Riggers from the 647th QM Det., 45th STB, 45th Sust. Bde., 8th TSC, hook a parachute to a pallet of water, May 14, at Camp Red Hat, Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. The demonstration was part of the “Teach Me How to Rig” training event held for the leaders and staff of the 45th STB.

“It was excellent training that was easily resourced and provided multiple tangible benefits, including specifical-

ly that the bundles we rigged will be used for an actual mission,” Hyatt said. “Any other organization could repli-

cate this event with equal success and would be welcome to do so by the ‘Riggers.’”

25th CAB brings much needed supplies to Soldiers

Story and Photo by
SGT. DANIEL SCHROEDER
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs,
25th Infantry Division

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Flight crews from “Task Force Hammerhead” conducted a re-supply mission to Soldiers on the ground, here, May 19.

The mission was one of several re-supplies conducted to ground forces throughout Regional Command-South. Re-supply missions bring emergency supplies to Soldiers conducting operations in the field.

Company B, 3rd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Combat Avn. Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, has completed more than 50 re-supply missions transporting more than 1,500 tons of cargo since arriving in Afghanistan.

“I have conducted approximately 20 re-supply missions,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Damien Anderson, pilot, Co. B., 3rd Bn., 25

Avn. Regt., 25th CAB. “These operations are all about the guys on the ground and what they need to complete their tasks.”

When supplies are running scarce for Soldiers in the harsh Afghanistan environment, the sound of a CH-47 Chinook helicopter approaching with much needed supplies brings a sense of joy with it.

“During my last mission, we ran low on food and water,” said Sgt. Derek Hoover, team leader, Co. F, “Pathfinders,” 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regt., 25th CAB. “This was my first time receiving a re-supply while out in the field. I was happy to see the aircraft arrive with the supplies we needed.”

For Soldiers on the battlefield away from the security of a forward operating base or on a remote outpost, re-supply operations bring comfort for troops and build morale with the knowledge the supplies will be there when needed.

USARPAC-SU changes command

Krakowiak reorganized unit and created three Pacific detachments while in command

1ST LT. DANICIA L. JACKSON
9th Mission Support Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER FLATS — Army Reserve Soldiers, family members and guests gathered for the U.S. Army Pacific-Support Unit change of command ceremony, here, May 20.

Maj. Gen. William Beard, deputy commander, USARPAC, and P. Pasha Baker, ambassador, U.S. Army Reserve, sat in attendance while USARPAC-SU changed hands from Col. Joseph Krakowiak to Col. Jonathan Wung.

“I look forward to the challenges ahead in leading the USARPAC-SU,” Wung said after

receiving the unit’s colors. “We are, and will continue to be, positioned and postured to answer the call.”

Wung has more than 27 years of service, most of which has been spent in the Pacific.

“It is a great honor and privilege for me to be standing here officiating this auspicious change of command ceremony,” said Col. John Ellis, deputy commander, 9th Mission Support Command.

“This unit will be an important one as the eyes and focus of our national leaders turn to the Pacific region,” Ellis said. “It is our Soldiers conducting exercises and missions with our allies and partners who are cementing the bonds of friendship and furthering the spirit of

See USARPAC-SU, A-6

Program aims to improve Soldier transition resources, processes

SUSAN ANDERSON
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — In mid-July, the Army will begin piloting components of what constitutes a major overhaul of how the Army transitions Soldiers from military to civilian life. Most of the core transition curriculum has either been modified or is brand-new, said Walter Herd, director, Army Career Alumni Program.

Herd was one of more than 30 representatives from across the federal government who participated in a Pentagon Transition Summit, recently, hosted by Gen. Lloyd Austin, Army vice chief of staff. Participants met to address collective progress and re-

maining tasks in the Army’s ongoing efforts to meet full compliance with the Veteran’s Opportunity to Work Act of 2011 by the November 2012 suspense.

“Our purpose here these two days is to really sit down at the table and work together; to collaborate and learn about each other’s efforts; to build bridges; and to make sure we’re doing the very best for our Soldiers and their families,” said Austin. “We want to make sure we put all of our elements on the table, make sure our Soldiers are aware of what they can/should do. You are the experts in your various fields, and we

See ACAP, A-6

Army Week | A-2

Army celebrates its 237th birthday with weeklong events.

Competition season | A-4, A-5

599th Trans. Det. and 311th Sig. Command host Best Soldier and NCO challenges.



Memorial Day | B-1

Soldiers and families reflect on sacrifices of service men and women.

Robotics | B-4

Hale Kula’s Cyborg Eagles prepare for competition.

We want to hear from you...

The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes articles from Army or- ganizations, announcements from the general public about community events of interest to the military community, and let- ters and commentaries.

If you have newsworthy ideas or stories you'd like to write, co- ordinate with the managing edi- tor at 656-3156, or e-mail editor@ hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

The editorial deadline for ar- ticles and announcements is the Friday prior to Friday publica- tions. Prior coordination is mandatory.

Articles must be text or Word files with complete information, no abbreviations; accompanying photographs must be digital, high resolution, jpeg files with full captions and bylines.

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BACKTObASICS

Leadership skills not lost, just misplaced

SGT. MAJ. MIKE MAYNARD

94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command

Recently, we have seen much about how we need to get back to the basics and how we have lost the art of leadership. The words “getting back” and “lost” infer that we are not doing something that we did before. As a leader, some questions that come to mind are “Have we really lost it?” and if so, “When and why did we lose it?” and finally, “How are we going to fix it?” After all, we are noncommissioned officers. That is what we do - fix problems.

After serving more than a few years, I must admit that I do see what everyone is talking about and I understand the concern. What does not seem to make sense, however, is that if we “lost it” during the last ten years in combat, how did we successfully operate in that environment without adhering to the basics?

I don’t believe we “lost it” or that we “got away from it.”

Maybe we are just not experienced at applying the basics in a non-combat environment.

However, one area that we seem to be lacking in is



Maynard

establishing, maintaining and enforcing standards. We see Soldiers who do not adhere to uniform standards, but the NCOs do not make the corrections. During multiple deployments, I saw NCOs enforce uniform standards, weapons posture, vehicle maintenance and other things too numerous to list here.

We required Soldiers to adhere to uniform policies and when they didn’t, we made on-the-spot corrections. We checked on our Soldiers daily and ensured their living areas were neat and clean. We practiced these things on a daily basis so that it became second nature during combat - this is what made us successful.

Another area where we seem to be lacking in is caring for Soldiers. We have Soldiers with personal and family issues, but we have NCOs that are unaware of what their Soldiers are going through until it is a crisis. However, during multiple deployments, I saw NCOs talking with their Soldiers and their fellow NCOs every day. They knew all about their families, when a Soldier was having issues at home and how to talk a Soldier down from an unsettling mission or a family problem.

Finally, applying the same logic allows us further re-apply our leadership skills into other basic areas. Two that come readily to mind are accountability and safety. If we care about our Soldiers and we are enforcing

standards, we will always know where our Soldiers are and we will always make sure they are where they are supposed to be.

Also, we will not only ensure that our Soldiers are operating in a safe environment, but we will teach them how to apply composite risk management in their daily lives so they make the safe and right decisions.

Furthermore, it is important to apply our leadership in the financial lives of our Soldiers. Teaching and monitoring fiscal management can alleviate relationship issues, debt crisis, stress and even security clearance issues.

Have we really lost it? I don’t think so. While deployed, I witnessed countless examples of Soldiers and NCOs adhering to the basics and demonstrating outstanding leadership. The only thing I believe we have “lost” is the understanding and appreciation of what executing the basics in a non-combat environment taught us and how these skills made us successful in combat over the last ten years.

So, NCOs, get out there and do those things we know we need to do — establish, maintain and enforce standards and truly care for Soldiers! And Soldiers, get out there and help us out — you have a responsibility to speak up and let us know about leadership issues and concerns that affect you, your family and the team.

USARPAC celebrates 237 years of being ‘Army Strong’

U.S. ARMY-PACIFIC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

News Release

FORT SHAFTER — Ticket sales end June 8 for the 237th Army birthday commemoration.

Hosted by the U.S. Army-Pacific, the commemoration is open to all active duty, National Guard, Reserve, ROTC cadets, Army civilians, government contractors, family members, retirees, veterans and invited guests.

The event is June 15 in the Coral Ballroom of the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Waikiki. Check-in and cocktail hour will start at 5 p.m. Doors to the ballroom open promptly at 6 p.m. Attire for the evening for Soldiers is Army dress blues/mess and formal evening wear for civilians.

The event will be an elegant evening of socializing, dining, dancing and entertainment.

USARPAC will recognize the Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, civilians of the year, and the Mana O Ke Koa award recipient.

Mission support commands and theater enabling commands will compete during the centerpiece competition; the winning unit will receive bragging rights for the next year.

The 25th Infantry Division’s “Tropic Lightning” Band will provide music for the cocktail hour and dinner portion of the celebration. A local radio disc jockey will provide entertainment for the remainder of the evening.

Menu choices follow:

•Vegetarian: Grilled island vegetables accompanied by an herb-scented, creamy polenta and tomato coulis and basil oil (\$75).

•Chicken: Rosemary-scented grilled chicken breast in a marsala wine, dijon mustard sauce, accompanied by herb roasted potatoes and seasonal vegetables (\$80).

•Beef: Kona sea salt-crusted prime rib of beef, accompanied by au jus, creamy horseradish, herb roasted potatoes and seasonal vegetables (\$85).



Staff Sgt. Cashmere C. Jefferson | U.S. Army Pacific Public Affairs

Sgt. Maj. Frank Leota (left), senior enlisted leader, USARPAC and Lt. Gen. Francis Wiercinski (far right), commander, USARPAC, congratulate Staff Sgt. Adam Connolly (second from right), 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division and Sgt. Christopher Side, 1st Bn., 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, Okinawa, Japan, as last year’s USARPAC NCO and Soldier of the Year.

company by au jus, creamy horseradish, herb roasted potatoes and seasonal vegetables (\$85).

Last year’s Army birthday celebration sold out, so all are encouraged to purchase their tickets early.

The Army birthday commemoration celebrates the absolute best of Soldiers, civilians and family members of the U.S. Army-Pacific.

FTSTEPS in FAITH

Hawaii doesn’t need to ‘the rock’ for family members

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) MARK SEDWICK

65th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

You may be thinking, “Wow, what’s the matter with the chaplain? Why is he comparing Hawaii to a prison?”

When we hear the term, “the rock,” our memories take us back to several movies and a recent TV show about Alcatraz, the infamous federal prison located on an island just off the coast of San Francisco. The prison held some of this nation’s most notorious criminals including Al Capone and “Machine Gun” Kelly before it was closed down in the early 1960s.

Even 50 years after shuttering its doors, Alcatraz remains an extremely popular tourist attraction and, as I mentioned earlier, has formed the backdrop for a number of movies and a recent Fox TV series.

And no, I’m not really comparing Hawaii to Alcatraz.

However, many military families stationed in Hawaii



Sedwick

do occasionally feel isolated and even “trapped in paradise.” This is especially true for Hispanic military spouses who suddenly discover that being bilingual actually means English/Japanese in Hawaii.

In fact, the three Army chaplains stationed at Schofield Barracks who speak Spanish, including myself, have noticed that many Hispanic couples request an early return of dependents, or ERD, because the Spanish-speaking spouse doesn’t feel connected to the community. This is especially true for those family members who do not speak English well.

The Schofield Barracks Chaplain team will address this issue by hosting a “Sabor Latino,” or Latin flavor, event, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Aug. 4. We will offer Mexican and Puerto Rican food catered by local restaurants. We’ll connect Hispanic families to resources such as Army Community Service’s English as a second language classes.

Perhaps you speak English perfectly and still feel isolated here on the rock. Maybe the high cost of airline tickets has prevented you from attending family reunions and other events back on the mainland.

Maybe you are a one-car family like mine and you live off post, which can greatly increase the trapped in

paradise syndrome.

Maybe you and your spouse have even talked about an ERD. The good news is that applying for an ERD requires you to talk with your battalion chaplain. We will gladly point out the pros and cons, mostly cons, of voting yourself off the island early.

My first encouragement for a couple seeking an ERD is to attend a Strong Bonds marriage retreat. Besides learning valuable relationship building skills, couples can meet other couples from the unit who are probably experiencing the same feelings of isolation and loneliness. Meeting other couples means pooling resources — including babysitting, combined convoys to the commissary and exchange and the sharing of knowledge about health care and other important topics.

I also encourage couples to get actively involved with their family readiness group where many of the same resources can be acquired.

In conclusion, I encourage you to visit your battalion chaplain when paradise turns into the rock over time. We have the technology to help you divorce-proof your marriage and make your tour here in Hawaii into a life-long happy memory.

Army Birthday

Call 366-3557 for ticket information or visit:

- www.usarpac.army.mil/237Birthday.
- www.usarpac.army.mil/paw.

Voices of Ohana

Hawaii’s hurricane season runs from June 1-Nov. 30

What is in your disaster relief kit?

Photos by 311th Signal Command Public Affairs



“A flashlight, bottles of water, and a first aid kit.”

Spc. Caruntzel Butler
18th MEDCOM



“I have bottled water specifically for my dog, a first aid kit, canned foods, and water for me, all in a big black tough box.”

Spc. Crystal Hurley
94th AAMDC



“My disaster relief kit is not finished yet, but I have enough water for seven-10 days, non-perishable food, batteries and a radio for communication.”

Spc. Michael Mahoney
8th STB, 8th TSC



“Reserves of food, a couple of thermo blankets, several packs of chem lights, and life vests.”

Spc. Joseph Peck
8th STB, 8th TSC



“A first aid kit, three cases of water, a flashlight, a radio, lots of Ramen noodles, and canned foods.”

Spc. Natanya Russell
94th AAMDC



Sgt. 1st Class Saunoa Tupea (left), fire for effect coordination cell noncommissioned officer in charge, HHC, 25th CAB, 25th ID, ends the Fatupati dance with a battle cry during the Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month celebration on Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, May 18.



1st Lt. Jessica Jacinto (right), executive officer, Co. E, 3rd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., 25th CAB, 25th ID, dances a hula.

25th CAB introduces Asian Pacific heritage to ANSF

Story and Photos by
SGT. DANIEL SCHROEDER

25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — The 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, recently shared a bit of Hawaii’s culture with members of the Afghan National Security Forces, here, May 18.

“Task Force Wings” Soldiers who are native to the Pacific Islands several dances for the ANSF visitors.

“It is an honor being able to perform some of our culture for others,” said 1st Lt. Tamatane Letuli, executive officer, Head-

quarters and Headquarters Company, 25th CAB, and a native from American-Samoa. “It is always a good time performing these dances. It’s fun for us and the crowd seems to enjoy the show.”

The dances represented a piece of culture from different islands. One of the dances performed was the haka, a traditional ancestral war cry dance.

During the dance, all parts of the body represent the many instruments used to create the symphony of the kaka.

“The dances tell a story and I try to figure out what the story is while they are performing,” said Spc. Christy Michlewski,

administrative clerk, HHC, 25th CAB. “The haka is my favorite dance because of the various war moves from ancient times that differ from today.”

According to Letuli, the dances are a big part of the culture. Letuli said it is important to keep them going by passing them on to younger generations.

This was not the first time the 25th CAB and ANSF have come together to share their cultures. Last month, the soldiers of the ANSF invited 25th CAB Soldiers to their airfield where they performed traditional Afghan music, song and dance.

‘War Eagles’ create, find ‘happy places’ while downrange

CAPT. RICHARD BARKER

25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs,
25th Infantry Division

FORWARD OPERATING BASE TARIN KOT, Afghanistan — Ten years of conflict, multiple deployments and returning daily to the long hours of a dangerous job that can never actually be left.

These are the realities of the lives of our U.S. Soldiers in Afghanistan.

They constantly deal with the stress of war where they are responsible for the lives of others and have to make vital, heat-of-the-moment decisions. The stresses induced by these facets of war are compounded by the lack of simple, everyday luxuries that many Americans probably take for granted.

Humans endure, Americans adapt, and U.S. Soldiers seek out small simple places to momen-

tarily escape the reality of war.

These places are our Soldier’s “happy places,” a term coined in the Adam Sandler movie “Happy Gilmore.”

These places, each unique to their owner, are sprinkled throughout the bases and camps of Afghanistan. Many are hidden in plain view, unnoticed by those who have not claimed them.

Out the back door of an operations cell, down a corridor formed by two tightly packed buildings and snuggled against a stone barrier where just enough sun peeks through, lay a handful of neatly packed tomato and pepper plants growing out of old dirt-packed tires. These plants provide solace, a moment of peace, for Col. David Moga, commander, 1st Battalion, 2nd Aviation Regiment currently attached to the 25th Combat Avn. Brigade, 25th Infantry Division.

“I grew up on a farm and the garden reminds me of home,” Moga said. “ ... It’s relaxing to have an outlet, especially one that helps you mark how quickly time is passing.”

Moga says he chose to plant a garden because, unlike most things in Afghanistan, the tomato plants are real.

“Most other things on a FOB are somewhat fake,” he said, noting that even photos of family and internet calls are not like being there in person. “A tomato plant here is every bit like one at home; no difference whatsoever.”

While some happy places are personal, others can be chosen or built to provide a haven for groups of Soldiers. Soldiers from Company C, 3rd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., 25th CAB, built a deck off the back of their sleeping quarters as a place to relax. The deck, complete with picnic tables, a dart board, a Ping-Pong table, a card table and a punching bag, hosts groups of Soldiers for late-night movies and early morning Insanity workouts.

“We are inspired to create a better life and living condition in the Medical Evacuation because historically, we show up with what we have and we bring what we need to survive for the year,” said Chief Warrant Officer Gary Marden, Co. C, 3rd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., 25th CAB.

In some instances, a happy place doesn’t require a lot of space and time. Command



Command Sgt. Maj. Keith Cooper, senior enlisted leader, 1st Bn., 2nd Avn. Regt. currently attached to the 25th CAB, 25th ID, adorns his vehicle with a vanilla candle-scented air freshener and a dreamcatcher.

Sgt. Maj. Keith Cooper, senior enlisted leader, 1st Bn., 2nd Avn. Regt. currently attached to the 25th CAB, adorns his vehicle with a vanilla candle-scented air freshener and a dreamcatcher that chimes every time the vehicle hits a pothole.

“My wife always burns vanilla candles at home,” Cooper said. “When I smell the vanilla in this car it reminds me of home and gives me a moment of comfort.”

Life in Afghanistan is far from easy. Soldiers know this but have made the decision to sacrifice ease of life for an opportunity to serve their country. Regardless of how

hard it gets, the little things, the happy places, will always be available to help them get through the fight.



Photos by Sgt. Daniel Schroeder | 25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

Tomato plants grow out of dirt packed tires in a garden planted by Lt. Col. David Moga, commander, 1st Bn., 2nd Avn. Regt. currently attached to the 25th CAB, 25th ID, in Taren Kot, Afghanistan.



Sgt. Richard Gonzalez (left), 595th Trans. Bde., Camp Arifjan, Kuwait and MSDDC NCO of the Year, and Spc. James Conklin, 690th Rapid Port Opening Element, 597th Trans. Bde., Fort Eustis, Va., and MSDDC Soldier of the Year, start the obstacle course together at Schofield Barracks' East Range, May 22. MSDDC's Best Warrior competition was hosted by the 599th Trans. Bde.

Transporters from three continents converge in Hawaii

Soldiers and NCOs compete for the title of best of the best

Story and Photos by
DONNA KLAPAKIS
599th Transportation Brigade Public Affairs

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — Army transporters from three continents converged, here, May 21-23, for the Military Surface and Deployment and Distribution Command's Best Warrior competition, hosted by the 599th Transportation Brigade.

"It was like the 'Survivor' TV show," said Command Sgt. Maj. Cedric Thomas, senior enlisted leader, MSDDC. "We brought everyone out to the islands, to Hawaii, and at the end there was only one person standing in each category — one Noncommissioned Officer of the Year and one Soldier of the Year."

All Soldiers had already won their battalion and brigade-level competitions or had been selected as their brigade's NCO or Soldier of the Year before they came to compete.

After the three grueling days, the MSDDC named Sgt. Richard Gonzalez, 595th Trans. Bde., Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, as NCO of the Year, and Spc. James Conklin, 690th Rapid Port Opening Element, 597th Trans. Bde., Fort Eustis, Va., as Solider of the Year.

The first morning of competition began with a physical fitness test and weigh-in.

"You talk about tough," Thomas said. "Sgt. Gonzalez had just flown in from Kuwait and then had to do a PT test the next day."

During late morning and afternoon, May 21, after competitors had cleaned up and changed into their Army service uniforms, they underwent a written test, essay, and stood before a board comprised of all MSDDC command sergeants major. They also had to deliver on a mystery task — prepare a 10-15 minute class

within one hour for presentation to the board.

Staff Sgt. Jesus Grajales, 599th Trans. Bde. NCO of the Year, said he enjoyed the opportunity to take the tests and boards.

"Even though I began working for this a few months ago, there was a lot of general, Army knowledge on those tests that I didn't know until I took them," he said. "It was a great opportunity to learn."

The second day was the competition's busiest. The day began with a road march that ended at Schofield Barrack's East Range Obstacle Course After the obstacle course, they completed various warrior tasks, for which they were given a pass/fail grade. They then had a time to rest and change uniforms for a night land navigation exercise.

Most competitors agreed that the obstacle course was by far the most difficult event. Since it came right after the road march, muscles were sore and less agile than when fresh.

It surprised me," Conklin said. "That was a tough course anyway, but right after the road march like that we all had to dig deep to get through it."

The morning of the third day, competitors tested their rifle marksmanship at a Schofield Barracks' rifle range. They then ate a potluck lunch with the 599th Trans. Bde., followed by the presentation of NCO and Soldier of the Year awards in the afternoon.

The next level of competition for Gonzalez and Conklin is Army Materiel Command at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., after which is Army-level.

All Soldiers said they appreciated the camaraderie of the competitors.

"I was surprised and pleased at how much everyone tried to help each other," Gonzalez said. "It was inspiring. Even though we were competing, we were all motivating each other to complete the tasks."



Sgt. 1st Class Andrea Luke, 596th Trans. Bde., starts across the parallel bars at Schofield Barracks' East Range obstacle course, May 22.

311th Sig. Command warriors compete to be the best

Story and Photos by
CRISTA MARY MACK
311th Signal Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — Competitors representing Signal units throughout Asia and the Pacific convened, here, to tackle four days of challenging events during the 2012 311th Signal Command Best Warrior Competition, May 19-23. Ten competing Soldiers and noncommissioned officers flew from as far as Alaska and Korea to compete in the annual competition.

The 2012 Soldier of the Year winner is Spc. Richard Wyce, Company B, 307th Expeditionary Sig. Battalion, 516th Sig. Brigade, 311th Sig. Command. The 2012 NCO of the Year winner is Sgt. 1st Class Ty Patrick, Head-

quarters and Headquarters Detachment, 59th Sig. Battalion, 516th Sig. Bde.

“To reach this level of competition, these warriors demonstrated dedication to duty and a thirst for excellence,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin Thompson, senior enlisted leader, 311th Sig. Command.

“Each year, we try to out do what we did the year prior, so when you look at the quality of events — how they are set up, the equipment, the effort, and how it’s put together — I’m very proud of the 311th’s participating Soldiers and NCOs; and it was an honor and privilege to witness their hard work and perseverance.”

Thompson said one of the factors

that makes the 311th Sig. Command’s Best Warrior Competition so unique among other Army warrior challenges is the 311th Sig. Command is a multi-component unit.

The unit has active, Reserve and Department of the Army civilians all under the same command, and therefore accepts competing Soldiers from both active and Army Reserve components.

Brig. Gen. William Scott, commander, 311th Sig. Command, and Thompson, together with fellow senior leaders of the 311th Sig. Command, welcomed competing Soldiers with an icebreaker luncheon at the Hale Ikena, here. Immediately following the luncheon, the competition kicked-off with a written exam and an essay.

In addition to the written portion,

competitors began day two with an Army physical fitness test followed by a morning filled with a variety of Army warrior tasks such as evaluating and evacuating a casualty and reacting to indirect fire.

Several mystery tasks during the AWT portion of the competition included disassembling and reassembling an M249 machine gun, performing a functions check with a 9mm beretta pistol, maintenance checks, performing tactical communications, and identifying wear and appearance of military uniform malfunctions.

After completing these events, participating Soldiers engaged in an afternoon of modern Army combatives.

Additional challenges included a ruck march, both day and night urban orienteering and a formal board

with a panel of sergeant majors. “Best of the best means you have all the qualities in all the areas and you really are the Soldier that everyone expects to see, you’re not just awesome at one thing and then get by on something else,” said Sgt. Christian Riley, 275th Sig. Co., 41st Sig. Bn., who flew from Camp Humphreys, Korea to compete and was runner-up NCO of the Year. “I think everyone should strive to make it to this level and past, you really find out a lot about yourself and you really improve yourself.”

The 311th Sig. Command winners will go on to compete in the Network Enterprise Technology Command/9th Signal Command (Army) competition in Fort Huachuca, Ariz., as well as in the U.S. Army-Pacific and U.S. Army Reserve Command competitions this summer.



Competitors prepare for the urban orienteering portion of the 311th Sig. Command's 2012 NCO and Soldier of the Year competition.



Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Cayton (left), 311th Sig. Command, leads competitors during the urban orienteering portion of the 311th Sig. Command's 2012 NCO and Soldier of the Year competition.

Army civilian blows doors off career progression

JEFF HAWK
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Civilian ELDP program builds agile and a more decisive workforce

WASHINGTON — Army civilian Tacoma Anderson is literally busting down doors to progress her career.

The 15-year Army careerist recently traveled to the Kingdom of Bahrain where the Coast Guard taught her how to breach structures and apprehend bad guys holed up inside.

“We learned how to cut down doors, enter the building and take over,” said Anderson, a 41-year-old housing management specialist in the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management at the Pentagon.

Anderson is participating in the Department of Defense Executive Leadership Development Program, or ELDP, which provides a series of state-side and global training experiences that blend experiential and academic learning with hands-on exercises.

The 10-month program focuses on the role of the war fighter. It’s one of many programs avail-

able to Army civilians to help them progress their careers while filling proficiency gaps in the Army. The goal is to develop agile, decisive and competent civilians who can lead in a dynamic, global environment.

The ELDP is the latest in a series of sequential and progressive Army and Defense Department courses Anderson has taken to accelerate her career and develop her expertise and leadership skills. An enlisted Soldier for eight years, Anderson has taken the fast track in her civilian career, progressing from a GS-4 to a GS-12 in seven years.

“The Army’s 330,000-plus civilians must be provided the same opportunities to progress their careers as those available to the military workforce,” said Vicki Brown, chief, Civilian Training and Leader Development, Army G3/5/7. “Competent, decisive civilian leaders help save lives and secure our freedoms by providing expertise in support of the war fighters.”

Congress agrees.

The National Defense Authorization of 2010 charged the Defense Department to “plan, program and budget investments in civilian leader

development.” The Army’s CES supervisory development courses, and Department of Defense offerings provide the training framework Congress envisioned.

CES is the Army’s core leader development system, which begins with the Foundation Course. Civilians at all grade levels hired after Sept. 30, 2006, are required to complete the self-paced, distance-learning course. Topics range from conflict management and team building to Army values and leadership doctrine.

The follow-on courses — basic, intermediate and advanced — all build on this foundation. The courses progressively address financial management, supervisory skills, human resource management, leader development and other subject matter areas. They take students from small team leadership to operating in the joint, international DOD arena.

The current Supervisor Development Course, or SDC, is the mandatory training for all military and civilian supervisors of Army civilians. They must take the training within one year of appointment to a supervisory position and complete refresher training every three years. Supervisors

are to complete their training requirement by June 30. The subsequent Manager Development Course, or MDC, is recommended for supervisors to continue building their management skills.

“I’m looking at future opportunities,” she said. “Being a continual learner means always being on the front line, just like our war fighters.”

(Editor’s Note: Hawk is the public affairs officer for the Pittsburgh District Corps of Engineers. He wrote this article during a public affairs fellowship with the Civilian Training and Leader Development Division in the Headquarters, Department of the Army, G-3/5/7 Training Directorate.)

ELDP
Learn more about ELDP and other civilian professional development opportunities online at:

- www.civiliantraining.army.mil.
- www.facebook.com/armyciviliantraining.

USARPAC-SU: Unit changes leadership

CONTINUED FROM A-1

working together for a common purpose.”

Krakowiak reorganized U.S. Forces Korea Support Unit to USARPAC-SU, October 2011, and established three official detachments in Hawaii, Korea and Japan.

“I really appreciate how this team persevered during the mission change and reorganization challenges we’ve gone through in the last year,” Krakowiak said. “(I) would just like to say mahalo to all of my heroes represented on the field for staying mission-focused and to my commanding generals for allowing me to do the same. I am really going to miss being on this team.

“Change can frequently be a good thing, even though when we are in the middle of it; we can’t see the goodness, sometimes all we can see is the chaos and uncertainty from the challenges brought on by those changes,” Krakowiak added. “It’s during this time you really have to put your armor on, but often it is those challenges that can lead to really great things.”

As a major subordinate unit under the 9th MSC, USARPAC-SU provides joint and combined staff capabilities and reinforced support to joint headquarters requirements throughout the U.S. Pacific Command area of operations. USARPAC-SU maintains peace and stability, deters and defeats aggression, and provides humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.



Col. John Ellis (right), deputy commander, 9th MSC, passes USARPAC-SU’s colors to Col. Jonathan Wung (left), incoming commander, during the change of command ceremony, May 20.

ACAP: Overhaul to streamline transition process

CONTINUED FROM A-1

believe we have the right folks in the room to do the right things.”

Among the many adjustments to the ACAP curriculum is an improved six-hour financial planning seminar to be taught by certified financial counselors. Topics covered include 12-month financial planning, health care planning, health insurance, tax planning and preparation, credit ratings, home ownership and estate planning.

The Department of Labor’s Employment Workshop also was modified based on feedback from students, facilitators and observers to better focus on the mechanics of Soldier transition, said John Moran, deputy undersecretary for Veterans Employment and Training Services.

“Our modified curriculum now places a greater emphasis on things like writing effective resumes and cover letters, using networking tools, preparing for interviews and evaluating job offers and salaries,” he said.

The transition process doesn’t stop the day the Soldier leaves the service, and the VA is working closely with the Army to ensure Soldiers take advantage of the many benefits available to them after separation.

One adjustment is the Army’s adoption of the Hero 2 Hired online employment application tool at www.H2H.jobs. The site offers users the opportunity not only to perform job searches and post

resumes, but to translate military skills, explore different career paths and more.

The EBenefits website also will play a significant role in ensuring a warm handoff. As users hit key milestones in their transition, the site will send out reminders as to what things they should be doing, said Jack Kammerer, Veterans Administration senior advisor to the Secretary.

Locally, no direct impact will be felt until November 2012, when the two-day DOL Employment Workshop will become mandatory for all transitioning Soldiers, said Charlene Shelton, Transition Services manager, Schofield Barracks ACAP. Shelton anticipates a 35 percent increase in Soldier traffic, through the ACAP center and advises those who know they will be transitioning to reserve their workshop session as soon as possible.

ACAP
For more information about Soldier transition changes, or to “Like” Schofield Barracks ACAP’s Facebook page visit:

- www.acap.army.mil.
- www.facebook.com/SchofieldBarracksACAP.

News Briefs

Send announcements for Soldiers and civilian employees to community@hawaii-armyweekly.com.

7 / Thursday

8th TSC Change of Command

— Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry will relinquish command of 8th Theater Sustainment Command to Maj. Gen. Stephen R. Lyons, 10 a.m., June 13 at Hamilton Field, Schofield Barracks. Lyons most recently served as the Director for Logistics Operations, Readiness, Force Integration and Strategy, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, U.S. Army G4, Washington, D.C.

Terry is departing to take command of U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command in Warren, Mich.

The ceremony is open to the public. Visitors should enter Schofield via Lyman Gate. Call 8th TSC Public Affairs at 438-0944.

8 / Friday

Army Commemoration

— Ticket sales end June 8 for this annual U.S. Army-Pacific Army event, 6 p.m., June 15, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel’s Coral Ballroom, Honolulu. Commemorating the 237th birthday of the Army, the evening includes dining, dancing and entertainment. Visit www.usarpac.army.mil/237Birthday for details.



Command Sgt. Maj. William Robertson, senior enlisted leader, USAG-HI, renders a salute after placing the garrison's memorial wreath at USAG-HI's Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony, here, May 28. During the ceremony, Soldiers, family members and Hawaii residents honored Army veterans and members of sister services who served and died in defense of the U.S.



A firing party comprised of Soldiers assigned to the 3rd Sqdn., 4th Cav. Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, completes its mission of firing a three-volley salute.



Members of Chapter 4 of Disabled American Veterans, Wahiawa, along with other local veterans organizations, attended the ceremony to present memorial wreaths.



Staff Sgt. Gary Uttrich, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of buglers, 25th Infantry Division Band, plays taps.

USAG-HI honors those who served

Story and Photos by
VICKEY MOUZÉ
Managing Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — At 6 a.m., Monday, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts met here at the Post Cemetery to place U.S. flags and lei at the gravesites of the fallen in honor of Memorial Day.

The Rainbow Senior's Club donated lei as did local school students. Other lei came from local public school students and the Wahiawa Rainbow Senior's Club.

Gabriel Balais, 17, with Boy Scout Troop 32 of Waipio, donated his high school graduation lei.

Gabriel's dad and the troop's scoutmaster, Bobby Balais, said that this was the first year Troop 32 selected Schofield Barracks' Post Cemetery as its Memorial Day service project.

Four hours later, Soldiers, family members and Hawaii residents gathered at the Post Cemetery, here, for U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony.

"Our memorials, our cemeteries, our museums and our monuments serve as proof to our children and future generations that men and women of great character, from all walks of life, left their

homes and gave their lives to secure the rights and freedoms of others," said Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI.

"The third verse of the hymn, 'America the Beautiful' says it best, 'Oh beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more themselves their country loved and mercy more than strife.'"

Mulbury also quoted retired Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, former commander of U.S. Army Installation Management Command. "If you want to know the cost of freedom, look into the eyes of the children of the fallen."

Members of Disabled American Veterans, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the garrison command group placed wreaths under the half-staff flag during the ceremony.

Staff Sgt. Gary Uttrich, bugler non-commissioned officer with the 25th Infantry Division Band, played taps.

Uttrich said that playing taps at a Memorial Day ceremony "is a military bugler's most important job." He recalled attending his uncle's funeral in Portland. "He had served in the Navy. We couldn't find a bugler for his funeral. It's just not the same."

Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony

See related photos on page B-3 and
•www.flickr.com/usaghawaii

RALLY FOR SUMMER SAFETY



Staff Sgt. Cashmere C. Jefferson | U.S. Army Pacific Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — U.S. Army-Pacific kicks off the Army’s “100 Days of Summer Safety” with more than 250 motorcyclists from commands throughout Hawaii with an 80-mile motorcycle safety ride, here, May 24.



Briefs

Today

Pacific Army Week Golf Tournament — Register today; deadline is June 5 for this four-person scramble golf tournament, with a 9 a.m. shotgun start, June 12. Entry forms can be found at www.himwr.com. Call 656-0114.

Smoothies Concession — Rich’s Daily Grind and Smoothies is now open at the Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Building 488, Schofield Barracks. Call in orders at 438-0128. Schedule follows:

- Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Saturday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Hawaiian Luau Lunch Buffet — Every last Friday of the month at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter or Kolekole Bar and Grill, Schofield Barracks; cost is \$12.95 per person. Call 438-1974 (Hale Ikena) or 655-0660 for (Kolekole Bar and Grill).

Right Arm Night — Purchase tickets for this event, 4 p.m., June 1, at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter. This is an adult event. Call 438-1974.

Free Hula Classes — The Native Hawaiian Liaison Office, USAG-HI, conducts free hula classes for Soldiers and families. Beginner classes are 5-6 p.m.; advanced classes are 6-7 p.m. Call 655-9694 or email nhliaison@gmail.com. Class dates follow:

- Mondays, Kalakaua Community

Center, Schofield Barracks.

- Tuesdays, AMR Community Center.

Friday Night Entertainment Series — See new acts each week at 8 p.m., Kolekole Bar and Grill, Schofield Barracks. Pau hana specials run before the show. Call 655-4466.

- 1st Friday is Comedy Night (for mature audiences only).
- 2nd Friday is live bands.
- 3rd Friday is Colby Benson Band.
- 4th Friday is Taking Care of Business Band.

2 / Saturday

Adventure Surfing — Surf with Outdoor Recreation, 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; June 2; special pricing at \$10 off regular price of \$54 is available for June 2 and 23 sessions. To register, call 655-0143.

5 / Tuesday

9-Ball Pool Tournament — Join this popular weekly competition on Tuesdays; game starts at 6 p.m., Tuesdays, Tropics Warrior Zone, Schofield Barracks. Free to play. call 655-5698 to sign up.

Quilting/Sewing Class — Learn the basics and start a new project 6-8 p.m., every Tuesday. Cost is \$25 for the first class and then \$5 for each additional class. To register, call 655-4202.

Financial Readiness Program — A financial counselor is available at the Fort Shafter ACS office, Room 111, every Tuesday until further notice to help with financial actions other than Army Emergency Relief loans. To make an appointment, call 438-9285.

6 / Wednesday

BOSS Meeting — Single Soldiers

and geographic bachelors are invited to this Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, or BOSS, meeting, 3 p.m., Tropics Warrior Zone, Schofield Barracks.

Meetings for the north community are 3 p.m., every first and third Wednesday of the month at the Warrior Zone. Meetings for the south community are 10 a.m., every second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Call 655-1130.

Kids \$1.99 Meal — Every Wednesday night, keiki under 10 can eat for \$1.99 at the Kolekole Bar and Grill at Schofield Barracks or Mulligan’s Bar and Grill at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter.

Texas Hold ‘em — Test your poker playing, June 6, at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter. Enjoy food and beverage specials. Call 438-1974.

7 / Thursday

Zumba — The Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center offers Zumba classes, 4:45-5:45 p.m., Thursdays. Cost is \$4 per person. Call 438-1152.

Tropical Thursdays — Play Texas Hold ‘em, 6 p.m., June 7, at the Tropics Warrior Zone, Schofield Barracks.

All ID cardholders 18 and older are welcome; it’s free with no buy in. Call 655-5698.

11 / Monday

Training Holiday Specials — From 11 a.m.-4 p.m., June 11, Soldiers can enjoy two free games at the Fort Shafter Bowling Center with the purchase of the daily lunch special or any sandwich combo meal deal.

Free games must be bowled on same day of food purchase. Shoe rental not included.

Offer cannot be combined with any other offers. Specials are offered provided lanes are available and do

not apply to group or party reservations. Call 438-6733.

16 / Saturday

Army Birthday Celebration — Continue celebrating the Army’s birthday (June 14) starting at 2 p.m., June 16, Palm Circle, Fort Shafter. Highlights include a polo game, military static displays, pony and carriage rides and keiki activities.

Beverages will be available for purchase. Bring your own chairs, umbrellas or small pop-up canopies. Free; open to the public.

Visit www.himwr.com or call 655-0111/0115. For a complete listing of Pacific Army Week events, visit USARPAC.army.mil/PAW.

17 / Sunday

Sunday Breakfast — Enjoy breakfast at Kolekole Bar and Grill (Schofield Barracks), 9 a.m.-1 p.m. or brunch at the Hale Ikena (Fort Shafter), 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 655-4466 (SB) or 438-1974 (FS).

29 / Friday

Basketball Tournament — Entry deadline is June 29 for the Army Hawaii’s men’s and women’s 30 and Older Basketball Tournament. Call the Sports Office at 655-0856/9914.

Ongoing

Fourth of July Run — Register today for this annual 5K event at Schofield Barracks. Register by June 23 at www.himwr.com

Leilehua High School Registration — Leilehua High School will hold a mass registration for new students, 9 a.m.-noon, July 3 in the LHS cafeteria. Freshmen only will start school July 30; all others will start July 1. Call Jen Okuma at 622-1435.

Community Calendar

Send announcements a week prior to publication to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

Today

State Fair — This annual event runs through June 24, weekends only, at Aloha Stadium Visit www.ekfernandez.com for details.

2 / Saturday

Battle of Midway — To commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway, the Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor is featuring a Midway Symposium, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., June 2-3.

The symposium is included with museum admission, and is free to museum members, and open to the public.

Also, June 2, the Museum will unveil its new 40-foot diorama of “The Battle of Midway,” June 2. Visit www.PacificAviationMuseum.org.

8 / Friday

King Kamehameha Day — This colorful celebration honors the reign of King Kamehameha who was responsible for uniting the Hawaiian Islands under his rule in 1795. Visit <http://hawaii.gov/dags/kamehameha> for a listing of events or call 586-0333. Events celebrating the holiday follow:

June 8
•3:30 p.m.: King Kamehameha statue lei-draping ceremony in front of Aliiolani Hale.

June 9
•9 a.m.: 96th Annual King Kamehameha Celebration Floral Parade. The parade proceeds from Iolani Palace to Kapiolani Park and traverses from downtown through Waikiki and ends at Kapiolani Park.

Features floral floats and pau riders (elegantly dressed women riding lei-draped horses).

•10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Hoolaulea (block party), Kapiolani Park, with live entertainment, food booths, cultural demonstrations and educational exhibits.

Pan-Pacific Festival — This 33rd annual international cultural

celebration is June 8-10 at various locations throughout Ala Moana and Waikiki. Features Pacific Rim cultural performances, hula festival, hoolaulea (block party) and culminates with a colorful parade Kalakaua Avenue. Visit www.pan-pacific-festival.com.

Ongoing

Food for Families — The Armed Services YMCA at WAAF has an emergency food locker that assists military families experiencing financial difficulty. Available are supplies of canned goods, frozen food, dry goods and personal care items. Donations are always accepted. Call 624-5645.

Operation Kid Comfort — This local quilting group creates comfort quilts and pillows for children of deployed service members. Call 473-3398 or email PearlHarbor@asymcahi.org.

RAP Meeting — Get involved in

your community by attending your community’s Resident Advisory Panel. IPC’s residents can develop and strengthen their relationships with property management and fellow residents through the RAP.

Contact your community manager for details and volunteer opportunities. Visit www.IslandPalmCommunities.com.

Hui Thrift Shop — The Hui Thrift Shop at Schofield Barracks offers great bargains and a chance to volunteer.

Located at 2107 Ulrich Way, behind ACS, the shop is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the first and third Saturday of the month.

Consignment hours are 9-11 a.m. Call 624-3254 or email huithriftshopliaison@gmail.com. Visit www.schofieldspousesclub.com or search for “hui-thrift-shop” on Facebook.

Troops to Teachers — This program directly supports military members who have chosen teaching as a career. It allows up to a \$10,000 bonus for teaching in high-needs Call 586-4054, ext. 409.

worship Services

Additional religious services, children’s programs, educational services and contact information can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. (Click on “Religious Support Office” under the “Directorates and Support Staff” menu.)

- AMR: Aliamanu Chapel
- FD: Fort DeRussy Chapel
- HMR: Helemano Chapel
- MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
- SC: Soldiers’ Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

Buddhist Services

- First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
- Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

Catholic Mass

- Thursday, 9 a.m. at AMR
- Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC, WAAF
- Sunday services:
 - 8:30 a.m. at AMR
 - 10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
 - 11 a.m. at TAMC
- Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m. at MPC and 12 p.m.TAMC

Gospel Worship

- Sunday, noon. at MPC
- Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study

- Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
- Friday, 2:30 p.m., TAMC
- Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m.; 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

- Monday, 6 p.m. at PH (Bible Study)
- Friday, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8:15 a.m. at PH

Pagan (Wicca)

- Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex

Protestant Worship

- Sunday Services
 - 9 a.m. at FD, MPC and TAMC chapels
 - 9 a.m. at WAAF chapel, Lutheran/Episcopalian
 - 10 a.m. at HMR
 - 10:30 a.m. at AMR

Single Soldiers’ Bible Study

- Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. at SC; lunch is provided.

Worship Service

- Sunday, 6 p.m. at SC.

This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater

Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to aafes.com under reeltime movie listing.



The Three Stooges (PG)

Fri., June 1, 4 p.m.

The Cabin in the Woods (R)

Fri., June 1, 7 p.m.
Wed., June 6, 7 p.m.

The Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG)

Sat., June 2, 4 p.m.
Sun., June 3, 2 p.m.

The Five-Year Engagement (R)

Sat., June 2, 7 p.m.
Thurs., June 7, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Calendar abbreviations

8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment Command
25th ID: 25th Infantry Division
ACS: Army Community Service
AFAP: Army Family Action Plan

AFTB: Army Family Team Building
AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation
BCT: Brigade Combat Team
BSB: Brigade Support Battalion
Co.: Company
CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services

EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program
FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation
FRG: family readiness group
HMR: Helemano Military Reservation
IPC: Island Palm Communities

SKIES: Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills
TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center
USAG-HI: U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
USARPAC: U.S. Army-Pacific
WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield

Hale Kula Cyborg Eagles wrap up an inventive year

Story and photos by
VERA YAMANAKA
Hale Kula Elementary School

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The school year has come to a close, but some students at Hale Kula Elementary School on Schofield Barracks have not only put away their books, pencils, and markers; they have inventoried their NXT Lego parts, deconstructed their PVC pipe maze, and stored their PC laptops for the summer.

Members of the Hale Kula robotics team, the Cyborg Eagles, ended their busy year by snacking on pizza and taking stock of Mind-storm Lego pieces recently.

Hale Kula was the only elementary school in the Leilehua Complex to become a FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Lego League team and qualify to enter the FLL competition in November.

The competition theme for the year was, “Food Factor.” The Cyborg Eagles researched, created, and presented a device that would help farmers grow healthier produce by detecting fruit flies in the field and alerting them of their location.

Team members also built and programmed “Little Eagle,” their autonomous NXT bot that competed in the Robot Games. They accomplished missions including “Pollution Reversal” where the bot knocked colored balls off a ring, and “Fishing” where the bot grabbed fish and transported them to base.



Nathan Lawrence and Sorennna Jean, members of the Hale Kula Elementary School robotics team, set up their robot to flip ping-pong balls out of the arena.

In January, new team members learned how to build and program NXT bots as part of Hale Kula’s service learning project.

Members used experimentation, along with trial and error, isolating variables, and other science problem solving skills to successfully compete last month. “It was fun experiment-



Hale Kula Elementary School Cyborg Eagles gather at the FIRST Lego League Elementary School Competition at Wahiawa Middle School, May 5.

ing,” said Meagan Hammond, team member.

The Cyborg Eagles were recently named competition champions of the elementary school competition held at Wahiawa Middle School. The team also won first place in the Maze challenge and tied for first and placed

second in the Ping-Pong Challenge.

Competition Team members include: Tyler Blevens, Hank Botters, Riley Girouard, Sorennna Jean, Hammond, Nathan Lawrence, Cody Leuenberger, Aidan Manzo, Craig Michaud, and Macayla Pott.

Army School Liaison Office supports families, schools

TAMSIN KEONE
Directorate of Family and Morale,
Welfare and Recreation

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — We know how important education is to the well being and quality of life of Army Families. When a Soldier moves to Hawaii with a Family, his/her first questions are usually, “Where will I live and where will my child(ren) go to school?”

The School Liaison Office; Child, Youth and School Services; Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, can assist families in their child’s education. The SLO coordinates and assists Army families and school-age youth with educational opportunities and information necessary to achieve academic success.

The SLO can assist parents to ease the impact of the mobile military lifestyle on the academic success of their children. They serve in a communication and assistance role between the school system and military families.

The SLO program can identify barriers to academic success and develop solutions; promote parental involvement in their child’s education; develop and coordinate the Army partnership in education program; provide parents with the tools they need to overcome obstacles to education that stem from the military lifestyle; and educate local communities and schools to better under-

stand the needs of military families.

The SLO’s education efforts include the Military Culture Course, a program that teaches Department of Education employees and community caregivers about the military lifestyle. The course is held every year and is always fully attended with a waiting list.

Another effort involving the SLO is the Partnerships in Education initiative through the School Partnership Program. Fifty Hawaii public schools are partnered with Army units for mentoring and tutoring, campus beautification, volunteering. During fiscal year 2011, the program racked up more than 6,682 recorded volunteer hours; so far, 1,955 hours have been recorded for FY 2012.

The educational experience of our military children is critical and of utmost importance. Therefore, the relationship between the schools and military families needs to be nurtured and enhanced constantly.

Through collaborative efforts with the DOE, parents, and military, the military child becomes the recipient of a good education while in Hawaii.

School Liaisons are a valuable asset and you are encouraged to use them fully.

School Liaison Office
Questions about your child’s education? Call the SLO at 655-8326.

USAG-HI, IPC seeking help for installation speeding campaign

ISLAND PALM COMMUNITIES
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Island Palm Communities, in partnership with U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii’s Directorate of Emergency Services, is launching a sign-waving campaign that will raise the awareness of the dangers of speeding and the importance of driving safe in and around IPC neighborhoods.

Volunteers are being sought to help get the message out to drivers to slow down, especially during peak drive times in high traffic areas.

“With school over and summer beginning, kids will be playing outside more than usual, so this campaign is important for the safety of our families,” said Tom Adams, director, Property Management, IPC.

“We want to create awareness about the dangers of speeding and let our residents know that IPC, USAG-HI and DES are committed to working together.”

Organizers view the sign-waving campaign as a community service project opportunity for teens, clubs such as the Boy

Scouts and Girl Scouts, or even friends and neighbors that want to make a positive difference in their community.

Organizers hope the campaign may even help save a life.

Slow Down Now Campaign

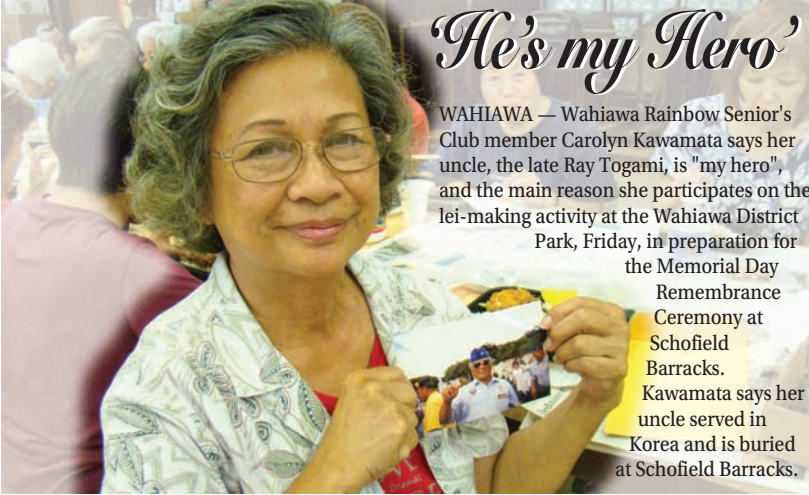
Volunteers are needed to wave signs in the following neighborhoods to remind drivers to slow down:

- Aliamanu Military Reservation, June 18, 3 p.m.
- Wheeler Army Airfield, 3 p.m., June 21
- Fort Shafter, 3 p.m., June 25.
- Helemano Military Reservation, 3 p.m., June 28
- Tripler Army Medical Center, 7 a.m., July 9.

To volunteer, RSVP@ipchawaii.com; subject line is Slow Down Now Campaign.

Visit IPC’s Facebook events page at
•www.facebook.com/IslandPalmCommunities

LEI MAKING MEMORIAL



“He’s my Hero”

WAHIAWA — Wahiawa Rainbow Senior’s Club member Carolyn Kawamata says her uncle, the late Ray Togami, is “my hero”, and the main reason she participates on the lei-making activity at the Wahiawa District Park, Friday, in preparation for the Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony at Schofield Barracks.

Kawamata says her uncle served in Korea and is buried at Schofield Barracks.

Jack Wiers | U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii Public Affairs



Parent, child therapy helps military families connect

STEPHANIE BRYANT
Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

HONOLULU —A family-focused therapy program has been adopted recently by Tripler Army Medical Center with the intent to improve military family relationships. Researchers and providers from the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Services; School Behavioral Health Team and Child and Adolescent Psychology Services; here, have been collaborating with the Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center to adapt a therapy called Parent-Child Interaction Therapy, or PCIT, for use with military families. Medical research has shown that there is a gap in treatment and resiliency-building for military families with young children. Although not a new therapy, PCIT uses research-based treatments to help children with disruptive behaviors. According to the program description, parents are taught specific skills designed to improve the parent-child relationship, improve the child’s attention and concentration, increase frustration tolerance and anger management and increase pro-social skills. “When I started my internship (at TAMC), I wondered why they did not have this program at the hospital because of the military children and the difficulty with separation, deployments and adjustments,” said Dr. Shantel Fernandez, licensed clinical psychologist, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Services School Behavioral Health Team, TAMC, and Tripler’s principal investigator for PCIT. “What makes us different from other PCIT

programs is that this is the first time this (treatment) has been looked at with military families,” Fernandez said. “The research shows that there is an increase in disruptive behaviors in kids, more marital problems and more child mistreatments (due to the increase in deployments.)” This intervention therapy has been shown to effectively reduce behavior problems in young children, improve the parent-child relationship, and reduce parenting stress and depression. For Barbara Pritchard, adult supervisor, Makalapa Elementary School, and wife of Marine Corps Sgt. Allen Pritchard, U.S. Marine Forces-Pacific, the interaction therapy has dramatically changed the relationship between her and her 5-year-old daughter, Faith Blair. “(Faith) was out of control, defiant, and refused to follow direction or listen to teachers at school,” Pritchard said. “The therapy coached me on behavioral therapy (techniques) and then Doctor Fernandez met separately with Faith. (Fernandez) went over guidelines and how to get the achieved goal from Faith focusing on positive interaction and reward in the beginning phase and then incorporating discipline techniques. “It was a very relaxed and calm environment and (Doctor Fernandez) answered every question I had,” Pritchard added. Tripler’s PCIT program is focusing on children ages 2-6 years-old and averages 15-18 one-hour sessions. Pritchard says that she and Faith, who attended sessions late September 2011-March



Photo Courtesy Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Researchers and providers from the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Services, School Behavioral Health Team and Child and Adolescent Psychology Services, Tripler Army Medical Center, have implemented a therapy called Parent-Child Interaction Therapy, which has been shown to effectively reduce behavior problems in young children, improve the parent-child relationship, and reduce parenting stress and depression. 2012, are now able to spend time together enjoying activities and less time in conflict together. “She responds more quickly to me and my requests,” Pritchard said. “She used to push and test limits and now I only have to tell her things one time or remind her once. She respects me more as a parent and, I think, respects all adults much better.” As an adult supervisor at an elementary school, Pritchard has been able to use the skills and techniques she has learned with her daughter and apply it at work. “I learned very good coping skills to use; not just in a one-on-one family setting, but also it helps in my career,” Pritchard said. “(Working at a school) gives me a nice, relaxed environment to practice those skills.”

Art therapy assists with cancer coping

STEPHANIE BRYANT
Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

HONOLULU — Patients and their families joined staff from Tripler Army Medical Center to participate in the sixth Annual Oncology on Canvas, here, recently. The art program is one of many therapeutic methods that Tripler uses to help its cancer patients and families cope. More than 175 people attended the art event in the hospital’s tenth floor conference room. The event originated as result of the hospital’s lack of avenues to help service members cope, according to Dr. Pat Nishimoto, adult oncology clinical nurse specialist, TAMC. She said active duty service members have a natural “suck it up and move on” mentality and a lot of cancer patients were not dealing with their diagnosis. “When (active duty patients) go through treatment, a lot of them continue to go to work and (they continue their daily roles always wanting to) give 110 percent,” Nishimoto explained. “They don’t talk about cancer and they don’t take time to reflect on the fact that they have been diagnosed with a disease that could be life-threatening. “Many of them would want to go back to work before (they should) and we tell them that they need time to recover because you get very tired when you are going through chemotherapy,” Nishimoto added. “Chemo is like a hardship deployment.” For 28-year-old Marine Staff Sgt. Robert Torres, Wounded Warrior Detachment, Marine Corps Base-Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, learning to cope with his cancer has been the biggest part of the adjustment for him and his family. Torres and his family transferred from their duty station in Okinawa, Japan, five months ago to Tripler to receive treatment after he was diagnosed with testicular cancer. “I am going through chemotherapy right now and the prognosis is good,” Torres said. “I will go through one more round of treatment (and will be here) for at least another two years.” He feels the Oncology on Canvas event created a great opportunity for his family to bond over the diagnosis. “I think this event is awesome,” Torres said. “It is a good way for the kids to express their artistic skills and (for us to) come together as a family.” Nishimoto is providing two families who were unable to at-



Jan Clark | Pacific Regional Medical Command Public Affairs

Haven (left) and Brooklyn Torres paint pictures during the 6th Annual Oncology on Canvas at Tripler Army Medical Center. Their father, Marine Staff Sgt. Robert Torres, is a cancer patient being treated at TAMC. tend the event with canvases so they can create artwork at home together.

Oncology on Canvas
View artwork created by TAMC patients and families affected by cancer on the following dates:
•June 4-15 in TAMC’s Medical Library, 11th floor
•August 6-18 at the Kahala Mall
•October 8-18 at Honolulu Hale
A special 5-7 p.m. Oct. 9 viewing will be held at Honolulu Hale with a reception that will offer viewers the chance to speak with some of the artists.

New Tricare dental partner announced

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is the new Tricare Dental Program, or TDP, contractor, providing dental benefits for more than 2 million Tricare beneficiaries worldwide. “MetLife is a very welcome new partner to the TDP,” said Gen. W. Bryan Gamble, deputy director, Tricare. “The company shares in our commitment to provide top quality health care to our service members and their families.” Beneficiaries purchasing TDP will see expanded dental benefits with lower monthly premium rates than last year. Some TDP enhancements include an increased annual benefit maximum of \$1,300, and a lifetime orthodontic maximum of \$1,750. New expanded coverage includes an additional annual maximum of \$1200 for dental accident coverage and no cost shares for deep cleaning for diabetic patients.

TDP Resources

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